

**SAYS LAW IS VOID**

Judge Sparks Rules Clerks May Retain Federal Fees.

Kansas Salary Law Says Must Account to County.

Stockton, Kan., Dec. 28.—At the term of the district court just closed here Judge Sparks rendered a decision of state wide importance, when he held that the Kansas fee and salary law was void wherein it holds that the clerk of the district court shall account to the county he is serving for the fees collected by him in home-stead entry and final proof on government lands and in the naturalization of aliens.

He held that the clerk could retain the same as his individual fees for the reason that when earning said fees he is acting as the agent of the federal government, that the federal statutes of June 29, 1906, expressly instruct the clerk to retain such fees; that a state statute ordering him to account to and pay over the same to the county is in conflict with the federal statute, and that where a state statute and a federal statute conflict the state statute must yield to the federal.

The decision was rendered in a case wherein the commissioners of Bookers county had brought suit to collect such fees from the clerk of the district court.

**FLOOR IMPORTANT PART.**  
Rugs and Carpets Must Harmonize With House Furnishings.

Manhattan, Kan., Dec. 28.—The question of floor coverings is one of the most important with the house-keeper, in the belief of Miss Araminta Holman, instructor in home decoration in the Kansas State Agricultural college.

"The three factors to be considered in decorating a room are harmony of color, form and arrangement," says Miss Holman. "The rugs or carpets should be darker than the walls, in order to give firmness and they must harmonize in color and design."

"From the standpoint of sanitation rugs are considered better than carpets. They can be easily removed and cleaned. When rugs are chosen a border of hard wood is used on the outside of the room."

"There are many varieties of rugs, but for design, durability and color the orientals are the best. Wiltons and velvets are excellent carpets, while the body Brussels are cheaper."

**COCHISE HEADS SOCIETY.**  
Animal Production Body Elects K. S. A. C. Man President.

Manhattan, Kan., Dec. 28.—W. A. Cochise, professor of animal husbandry in the Kansas State Agricultural college, is the new president of the Society of Animal Production, one of the leading scientific organizations of the United States. He was elected at the annual meeting held here.

The other officers are: J. M. Evers, of Iowa State college, vice president, and F. B. Morrison, of the University of Wisconsin, secretary-treasurer. The executive committee will determine the place of the next meeting.

The first business of the Agricultural college is to make good farmers, according to Prof. W. A. Coffey, of the University of Illinois, who addressed the society.

**KEEP ROAD IN FINE SHAPE.**  
Painville District Claims Best Rural Route Patron in State.

Painville, Kan., Dec. 28.—The family of Nels Baumgartner live on rural route No. 1, I. F. Ordway, the carrier for the last nine years, believes the family is the best all round patron there is in the state.

The family look after two miles of the road and keep it in fine condition. The grass is mown, weeds cut, and a drag goes over the road every time there is a rain. Mr. Ordway says there is no trouble to make good time when this part of the route is reached.

**LINCOLN WILL HAVE FAIR.**  
New Association Visits Wilson to See How Its Done.

Wilson, Kan., Dec. 28.—Twelve men of Lincoln were here to visit our fair grounds and see the officers of the fair association in order to know how to proceed in the starting of the fair. They have bought a tract of land near the city paying \$200 an acre for it and have already sold fair stock sufficiently to take care of the initial expense of getting up their first fair.

**BANK OPENS NEW BUILDING.**  
Pratt Institution Reopened With Big Concert After Remodeling.

Pratt, Kan., Dec. 28.—The Citizens bank opened up the new banking building Saturday and hundreds from all over the county inspected the new fixtures.

An orchestra gave a concert during the afternoon and refreshments were served and the ladies each received a carnation of a rose from the bankers.

**RAG IN NOSE BRINGS DEATH.**

Wichita Girl Smelled Calico; Meningitis Followed.

Wichita, Kan., Dec. 28.—While playing with pieces of red calico, Josephine Henrietta Cummins, 3-year-old daughter of H. E. Cummins, 541 New York avenue, innocently put one piece in her nose. Inflammation of the brain and meningitis developed, resulting in her death yesterday.

**NEW YORK ACCIDENTS**

Some One Injured Every Twenty Minutes on Gotham Streets.

New York, Dec. 28.—The World, after an investigation of accidents in the streets of New York, publishes these statistics:

Every twenty-two minutes some one is injured in an accident. From January to December 1 of the current year there were 18,223 accidents and 21,722 persons were injured in them.

Every thirteen hours some one is killed in an accident. From January 1 to December 1 the number of such fatalities was 612.

Two of every five killed were children—two of age—277 for the eleven months.

Ten injured were children—7,126 for the eleven months.

The deaths are greater in number and in proportion to population than in the case in any other great city of America or Europe.

THE MILLS STORES COMPANY

Order by mail

Satisfaction or your money back

Order by phone

THE MILLS STORES COMPANY

**Commencing Wednesday--1/2-price sale of women's coats****See the Window Display**

Your special attention is directed to the window display of coats—the whole front and clear around to the 9th Street entrance. If you are down this evening, be sure to see it; decide on the coat you want and be down bright and early in the morning.

**The Mills Stores Company**  
—TOPEKA'S BEST STORE— F. M. PELLETIER, PRES.

**Mail Orders Filled**

Simply decide on the price you wish to pay and the material and color you prefer, and send in your order right away—being sure to state the size. And remember, if the coat we send is not entirely satisfactory, return it and we will refund your money.



This 1/2-price sale of coats includes all small lots, all broken lines, the one-of-a-style, etc. Taking the lot as a whole, there is most every style, material and color that could possibly be desired. There are hundreds of coats in the lot and they all go on sale Wednesday morning at exactly half the plainly-marked, original, regular selling prices.

\$10.00 coats	\$5.00	\$25.00 coats	\$12.50
12.50 coats	6.25	27.50 coats	13.75
15.00 coats	7.50	30.00 coats	15.00
17.50 coats	8.75	32.50 coats	16.25
20.00 coats	10.00	35.00 coats	17.50
22.50 coats	11.25	40.00 coats	20.00

**1/2**

Please bear in mind that these are all this season's coats—not a single one was carried over from last season and we are not going to carry over a one to next season. In the lot as a whole, there are plenty of all sizes up to 44. As for styles, there are loose, semi-belted, full-belted and sport. And as for materials and colors, there are

Cloths	Colors	Trimmings
Mixtures	Tans	Fur
Zibelines	Blues	Plush
Matelamb	Greens	Braid
Corduroys	Blacks	Velvet
Broadcloths	Browns	Buttons

**All coats reduced**

While this 1/2-price sale does not include the entire stock, yet every coat is materially reduced. And this includes our beautiful line of plush and velvet coats, which has been acknowledged to be the largest and the finest showing in Topeka. Here at the "Big Store" all coats are radically reduced—and many of them are 1/2-price.

**Watch for the sale of Children's Apparel**  
—details in a few days

**ALL FURS**

My! How they are selling!!—women were quick to take advantage of this most remarkable offer. And it's the better furs—the Minks, the Lynx and the Beavers—that are in greatest demand.

All varieties of furs, from Coney to Sable, are included and every piece was personally selected and carefully inspected to be sure that it was the very best quality. There are

Mink	Fitch	Marten
Mole	Coney	Ermine
Lynx	Sable	Red Fox
Wolf	Beaver	White Fox

Please bear in mind that not a single set or coat is reserved—you can take your unrestricted choice of the entire stock. We will break any set (except children's) and sell the muff or scarf separately.

\$12.50 sets	\$ 8.37	\$100 sets	\$66.67
15.00 sets	10.00	150 sets	100.00
25.00 sets	16.67	200 sets	133.33
50.00 sets	33.33	300 sets	200.00
75.00 sets	50.00	500 sets	333.33

\$ 35.00 fur coats	\$ 23.33
50.00 fur coats	33.33
100.00 fur coats	67.67
200.00 fur coats	133.33
300.00 fur coats	200.00

Right at the very threshold of winter, just when we are having our first real fur weather, comes this sweeping 1/2 off clearance sale of the largest and most carefully selected stock of furs in Kansas.

**BASEMENT**

In the basement

**Coats 1/2 price**

\$4.95 coats	\$2.48
6.75 coats	3.38
8.98 coats	4.95
11.95 coats	5.98

Good, serviceable, stylish coats of heavy weight materials in plain black and in fancy striped and checked patterns, and sport coats and misses' coats—two big racks full on sale at 1/2 price.

**Suits—3 lots**

Lot No. 1 includes suits worth up to \$10.00	\$3.98
Lot No. 2 includes suits worth up to \$15.00	\$6.75
Lot No. 3 includes suits worth up to \$25.00	\$9.50

(BARGAIN BASEMENT)

**ALL SUITS**

Never has there been a sale like this—never such a great stock to select from and never at 1/2 price so early in the season. And the buying—trust the average woman to appreciate such bargains as these.

All of these suits are either late Winter or advance Spring styles. Yes, the suits that have come in since Thanksgiving are included just the same as the others—not a single suit is reserved.

Materials	Colors	Trimmings
Serges	Tans	Fur
Poplins	Blues	Self
Coverts	Greys	Plain
Gabardines	Blacks	Braid
Whipcords	Greens	Leather
Broadcloths	Browns	Buttons

The original price tickets are on all suits—nothing has been changed at all—and in making out the check, the saleswoman will simply deduct half from the plainly-marked, original, regular selling price.

\$10.00 suits	\$ 5.00	\$30.00 suits	\$15.00
12.50 suits	6.25	35.00 suits	17.50
15.00 suits	7.50	40.00 suits	20.00
18.75 suits	9.38	45.00 suits	22.50
19.75 suits	9.88	50.00 suits	25.00
20.00 suits	10.00	55.00 suits	27.50
25.00 suits	12.50	65.00 suits	32.50

This sale is indicative of how the "Big Store" has been doing big things for the last few months and of how it is going to keep on doing big things in the months and the years to come.

